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Brunhes, Director of the Puy de Dôme Observatory, who, it may be noted, is not entirely in agreement with all of Guilbert's ideas. R. DEC. WARD.

Die Schneegrenze in verschiedenen Klimaten. Von Dr. Viktor Paschinger. 93 pp. Maps, diagrams. *Ergänzungsheft No. 173 zu Pet. Mitt.*, Gotha, 1912. Mk. 7.80. 11 x 7½.

The height of the snowline, and its controls, have been investigated by many writers, among whom de Saussure, von Humboldt and Ratzel may be mentioned. Heim (*Handbuch der Gletscherkunde*, pp. 18-21) and Berghaus (*Behm's Geogr. Jahrb.*, Vol. I, pp. 258-267, Vol. V, p. 472) have given tables of the heights of the snowline in different mountains. In his *Handbuch der Klimatologie*, Vol. I, 3d. ed., von Hann gives an excellent summary of this whole matter. Those who have concerned themselves with the snowline have, however, for some time felt the need of a further and a more thorough investigation of the question, in the light of the latest and most complete data now obtainable. Dr. Viktor Paschinger, of Graz, has given us the desired monograph—a very complete and satisfactory presentation of what is, for many reasons, a difficult and confusing subject. Nearly two-thirds of the report is taken up with a detailed summary and critical examination of the data concerning the height of the snowline in all parts of the world, with copious references to the authorities. The remaining third deals with the relations between the snowline and the climatic elements. The author clearly recognizes that the snowline is essentially the resultant of climatic controls, and that, therefore, an investigation of the snowline is an important subdivision of climatology. Perhaps the most interesting of the plates is the curve showing the altitude of the snowline at different latitudes, from 80° N. to 65° S. R. DEC. WARD.

Luft- und Meeresströmungen. Von Dr. Franz Schulze. Sammlung Göschen. 149 pp. Maps, ills., index. G. J. Göschen, Leipzig, 1911. 80 pfg. 6½ x 4½.

The principal object of the book is to serve as an aid to young German seamen in their preparation for their examinations for the position as captain. It aims to condense, within the limits of 150 small pages, the most important facts concerning the winds and the ocean currents. A short introduction explains, for the benefit of the layman, the meaning of some of the more common nautical terms. The author is Director of the School for Navigation at Lübeck, has had nearly thirty years' experience in teaching navigation, and was at sea for ten years. The title is somewhat misleading, in that, under *Luftströmungen*, such special winds as the föhn, mistral, bora, etc., as well as tropical cyclones and tornadoes are considered. The little book therefore really deals with the whole subject of winds, as well as with ocean currents, and it does this in a very clear and satisfactory manner. R. DEC. WARD.

Brief List of Meteorological Textbooks and Reference Books. A selection of works suitable for general, scientific, and university libraries in the United States. 3d edition. By C. F. Talman. 22 pp. Index. Weather Bur., Washington, 1913. 9 x 6.

The Weather Bureau has recently issued the third edition of the useful Bibliography prepared by Professor Talman. We have here about 150 titles, carefully selected, classified and indexed, and brought down to date, the whole forming an excellent "working" bibliography for teachers and students of meteorology and climatology. In these days of the rapid increase of meteorological literature, this selected list of titles will prove very acceptable to those who are making a serious study of the science of the atmosphere.
R. DEC. WARD.

Contribution à l'Étude des Relations existant entre les Circulations atmosphériques, l'Électricité atmosphérique et le Magnétisme terrestre. Par Alfred Vialay. viii and 200 pp. H. Dunod et E. Pinat, Paris, 1911. Fr. 6. 10 x 6½.

The author has endeavored to correlate the general atmospheric circulation with the phenomena of atmospheric electricity and of terrestrial magnetism. His views are generally at variance with those which are commonly held today. For example, on the purely meteorological side, he believes that the ordinary explanation of the monsoons of the Indian region is absolutely wrong. The author has evidently read widely, but his book is not one which is likely to have many readers, nor will his views have many supporters. R. DeC. Ward.

Atlas photographique des Nuages. Par Julien Loisel. 20 ills. G. Thomas, Paris, 1912 (?). 14 x 10½.

We have here some very beautiful reproductions showing even the minute details of cloud structure. When such remarkable photographs are available, we are almost reconciled to the absence of color in the pictures. There are five photographs of cirrus; eight of alto-cumulus; one of alto-stratus; three of cumulus; one of nimbus; one of cumulo-nimbus, and one of strato-cumulus. The author, unfortunately, has not followed the International Cloud Classification, and this fact will militate against the general use of this otherwise most acceptable atlas. It is a pity, when international agreement has accepted a certain cloud classification, to have authors adopting and advocating an independent scheme. R. DeC. Ward.

PHYTOGEOGRAPHY AND ZOOGEOGRAPHY

Plant Physiology with special reference to Plant Production. By Benjamin M. Duggar. Rural Text-Book Series. xv and 516 pp. Ills., index. Macmillan Co., New York, 1911. $1.60. 7½ x 5½.

The progress of agriculture is becoming increasingly dependent upon the application of the facts and principles of plant physiology, and at the same time both investigation and instruction in plant physiology are coming to bear a closer relation to the service which may be rendered to agriculture. The college text-book under notice is an outcome of these tendencies, and is also calculated to strengthen them.

Professor Duggar has placed special emphasis on the growth of nutrition of plants and on the allied functions, and has touched lightly on the tropisms and such subjects as growth movements. The treatment of transpiration, the water requirement of plants, and mineral nutriments is particularly strong, and, throughout the book, illustration of physiological principles by practical results in plant production is calculated to stimulate the interest of the student. The topics are so handled as to suggest the desirability of more knowledge, and the copious literature references will lead the student to original sources.

Forrest Shreve.

The Life of the Plant. By C. A. Timiriazeff. Translated from the revised and corrected seventh Russian edition by Miss Anna Chérémeteff. xvi and 355 pp. Ills. Longmans, Green & Co., New York, 1912. $2.50. 9½ x 6½.

In 1878 Professor Timiriazeff, of the University of Moscow, published a series of lectures on the physiology of plants, the popularity of which has carried them through seven Russian editions.

The series was recently revised and translated into English under the title "The Life of the Plant." The book is an admirable semi-popular representation of a scientific field which has a forbidding look to many.

The ten lectures are arranged on a plan which emphasizes throughout their progress, the close interrelation of function and structure in plants. The field of plant physiology is oriented with relation to other sciences, both historically and philosophically, and some of the larger problems of biology are touched upon.

The author was one of the early adherents of the mechanistic view-point in physiology, to which he adheres throughout these lectures both in spirit and in language. The use of the words "adaptation" and "adapted," in the English translation, may cause some alarm as to the soundness of the author's biological philosophy, but there is no occasion for it. From a strictly technical